



NEWS RELEASE

Indiana Criminal Justice Institute

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Governor's Council Recognizes Traffic Safety Partners Annual Awards Banquet

Indianapolis, IN. – More than 250 state and local law enforcement agencies were honored last Friday, November 21, at the 14th Annual Operation Pull Over Awards Banquet at the Ritz Charles in Carmel, Indiana. Hosted by the Governor's Council on Impaired & Dangerous Driving, the banquet paid tribute to state and local law enforcement agencies in appreciation for their year round efforts to improve traffic safety and save lives.

“The success of Indiana's Operation Pull Over initiative would not be possible without the unwavering commitment of the law enforcement agencies that lead these efforts,” said Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) Executive Director, T. Neil Moore. “As a result of the increased enforcement and participation of these agencies, Indiana is making significant strides in traffic safety – including setting a statewide seatbelt usage record of 91.2 percent.”

Efforts conducted through Operation Pull Over rely on a dual strategy involving high visibility enforcement and heightened public awareness to deter impaired driving and increase seat belt usage. Operation Pull Over is structured in four quarterly campaigns and is funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Each campaign consists of two weeks of public awareness using television, radio and outdoor advertising and two weeks of increased enforcement.

More than 40 awards were handed out at this year's banquet in recognition of outstanding performance in a variety of categories. Among those honored to take away the biggest award of them all, was Elkhart Police Department who was the winner of a 2009 Crown Victoria – breaking Terra Haute Police Department's two year winning streak.

Following is a list of award winners honored at Friday's banquet. To access photos of this event, please visit <http://www.in.gov/cji/>.

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2008 Operation Pull Over Award Recipients

Governor's Council Chairman's Award

Jon Bonar – Ft. Wayne Police Department

ICJI Executive Director's Award

Center for Criminal Justice Research

Operation Pullover Police Departments

Small Police Department – Walkerton Police Department

Medium Police Department – New Haven Police Department

Large Police Department – Shelbyville Police Department

Best in State Police Department – Charlestown Police Department

Operation Pullover Sheriff's Departments

Small Sheriff's Department – Knox County Sheriff's Department

Large Sheriff's Department – Lawrence County Sheriff's Department

Best in State Sheriff's Department – Pulaski County Sheriff's Department

Big City/Big County Police Departments

Small Police Department – Highland Police Department

Medium Police Department – Elkhart Police Department

Large Police Department – Hammond Police Department

Best in State Police Department – Anderson Police Department

Big City/Big County Sheriff's Departments

Small Sheriff's Department – Wayne County Sheriff's Department

Large Sheriff's Department – Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Department

Best in State Sheriff's Department – Madison County Sheriff's Office

DUI/Task Forces

Small Task Force – Noble County Sheriff's Department

- Noble County Sheriff's Department

- Ligonier Police Department

- Kendallville Police Department

Medium Task Force – Sellersburg Police Department

-Sellersburg Police Department

- Clark County Sheriff's Department

- Charlestown Police Department

-Jeffersonville Police Department

Large Task Force – Mishawaka Police Department

- Mishawaka Police Department

- South Bend Police Department

- St. Joseph County Sheriff's Department

-Walkerton Police Department

-more-

Best in State Task Force –Steuben County Traffic Safety Partnership

- Steuben County Sheriff's Department
- Angola Police Department
- Hudson Police Department
- Ashley Police Department
- Orland Police Department

Dangerous Driving Task Force Awards

Allen County

- Fort Wayne Police Department
- Allen County Sheriff's Department
- New Haven Police Department

Vanderburgh County

- Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Office

Outstanding Traffic Safety Partnerships

Hamilton County Traffic Safety Coalition

- Hamilton County Sheriff's Department
- Carmel Police Department
- Fishers Police Department
- Noblesville Police Department
- Westfield Police Department

Marion County Traffic Safety Partnership

- Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department
- Lawrence Police Department
- Speedway Police Department
- Beech Grove Police Department
- Cumberland Police Department

Indiana State Police – Operation Pullover

Indianapolis Post, District 32

Peru Post, District 43

Project L.O.V.E.

White County Sheriff's Department

Outstanding Regional Coordinator

Northwest Region – George Georgeff – Highland Police Department

Northeast Region – Lt. Dave Hoffman – St. Joseph County Police Department

North Central Region – Major Steve Hicks – Wabash County Sheriff's Department

West Central Region – Deputy Tim Butcher – Lawrence County Sheriff's Department

East Central Region – Don Bickle – Marion County Traffic Safety Partnership

Southwest Region – Sgt. John Eric Dickenson – Cannelton Police Department

Southeast Region –Det. Scott A. Carter – Franklin Police Department

The Indiana Criminal Justice Institute serves as the state's planning agency for criminal justice, juvenile justice, traffic safety and victim services. ICJI develops long-range strategies for the effective administration of Indiana's criminal and juvenile justice systems and administers federal and state funds to carry out these strategies. For more information, visit www.in.gov/cji